

CLAIMS

8-11-4

1. A polo training apparatus comprising a dummy horse and at least one ball-receiving surface located adjacent to and below the dummy horse, the ball-receiving surface being displaceable relative to the dummy horse.
2. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ball-receiving surface is located to one side of the dummy horse.
3. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one ball-receiving surface is displaceable in a direction substantially parallel to the fore/aft direction of the dummy horse.
4. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, comprising a plurality of ball-receiving surfaces located adjacent to and below the dummy horse and being displaceable relative to the dummy horse.
5. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 4, comprising two ball-receiving surfaces, one located on each side of the dummy horse.
6. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the or each ball-receiving surface comprises one run of an endless conveyor belt.
7. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dummy horse is displaceable.
8. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the dummy horse is movable in a reciprocating motion.
9. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 7 or ~~claim 8~~, wherein the dummy horse is movable to simulate the movement of a real horse.
10. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the

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speed of movement of the dummy horse is a function of the speed of the ball-receiving surface or vice versa.

11. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the speed of the horse and the speed of the ball-receiving surface are directly proportional to one another.

12. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 10 ~~or claim 11~~, wherein the dummy horse and the ball-receiving surface are driven by the same means.

13. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the dummy horse and the ball-receiving surface are driven by a common electric motor.

14. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim ~~10~~, further comprising one or more inclined surfaces adjacent to the or each ball-receiving surface.

15. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 1, comprising a peripheral enclosure.

16. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the enclosure comprises a cage or net.

17. A polo training apparatus comprising a dummy horse having a substantially rigid frame and a body portion pivotally mounted on the frame, whereby the body portion can ^{be} pivoted from side to side.

18. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 17, further comprising biasing means for biasing the body portion towards a central position.

19. A polo training apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the

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comprising sensors adapted to respond to pressure from one or more of a rider's feet, knees or hand.

29. A horse riding training apparatus as claimed in claim 28, comprising pressure sensors adapted to respond to pressure from a rider's feet, wherein actuation of the pressure sensors causes an increase in the speed of movement of the body portion.

30. A horse riding training apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 27 to 29~~, further comprising a simulated horse head portion, reins extending from the horse head portion and a control means actuated by movement of the head with the reins.

31. A horse riding training apparatus as claimed in claim 30, wherein movement of head actuates a switch which, when operated, reduces the speed of the body portion.

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